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Double double
A Canadian's connection to Tim Hortons
on page 4

Chip off the old block
The history of the great potato chip
on page 5

Exploring our backyard
Visit Burnt River
on page 14

A sure sign that summer is winding down: the Kinmount Fair, this year set for the last three days of August. /FILE

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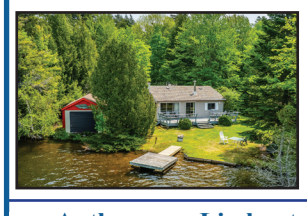

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Community

I RECENTLY heard the story of a Catholic church in Peterborough; the Cathedral of St. Peter in Chains, and how it was built by a group of new immigrants from Ireland. These people were part of the Peter Robinson settlement of 1825, and had just narrowly survived famine in Ireland, death on the sea voyage and all the perils of settling in the dense forests of the surrounding area.

However, despite these great hardships and the difficulty of their new life, they felt compelled by a need for a gathering space to celebrate their faith. So over 80 volunteers worked through the winter to build this humungous cathedral that still stands today. Lighting fires so that the mortar would harden, living in tents away from their farms to work long days on the construction. All this happened in 1836, just a few years after carving their lives out of the bush.

It reminds me of the importance of community and gathering and inclusion. These hard-working individuals were focused and knew that to keep thriving they needed to have a focal gathering point in which to share their faith and spend time in community with one another. This was time taken away from building their individual farmsteads up, this was time away from their families and livestock in the bitter cold, that was how important gathering together was for them and is to our human spirits.

TERESA JORDAN
Community Living Contemplations

I think it's a story we can find repeated in all kinds of places as new people enter different parts of our lands. The needs were immediate for shelter and a way to survive with food in a strange land with an unforgiving winter. Over and over though, I read about how once the immediate needs started to come together, the small communities inevitably made plans for church and school.

Dotting the countryside every two miles or so, the early settlers all seemed to know that a place to gather and share was equally important to long term survival. And now, when we have so much convenience like good roads, grocery stores, available water, and warm homes, we still need to seek out time and attention to whatever community we find ourselves most at home with. Whatever group of people that is our chosen community for shoring us up and making us feel included. We still need this to thrive, and need to build it up brick by brick, with warm fires as necessary to make sure the bonds last. We are stronger when we lean on each other.

Duck family by Jill Moulton

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I'm not regular

DEB REED
Wind in the Attic

PERSONALLY, I prefer my Tim's coffee sugarless, and with occasional double milk. I might definitely enjoy an iced matcha latte with coconut, double-shot espresso, caramel flakes, two pumps raspberry syrup, vanilla sweet cream cold foam, but I simply wouldn't bother. I'll stick with my slightly irregular Tim's, thanks. Especially far from home. I like feeling Canadian, even in Canada.

Tim Hortons (no apostrophe these days) is a big thing. Its timeless logo represents the actual signature of its original founder. There are about 5,000 of his restaurants in the world right now, about 4,000 in Canada. Launching in 1964 as a donut shop (where coffee cost 25¢, and donuts 69¢ per dozen), locations have since expanded to Southeast Asia, Latin America, the Middle East, U.S. and Europe. China presently features hundreds of franchises, some with iconic Canadian decor like hockey stick door-handles. World travellers report that a Tim's regular coffee tastes the same in Beijing, Mexico City, Belfast and Dubai as it does in Toronto.

Remarkably, a pre-1964 'Tim's' briefly sold burgers in North Bay. Its famous founder soon switched to selling donuts in Hamilton, and teamed with business partners to amplify the concept within Ontario. After his sudden death, coffeehouses continued to open under his name. The brand's ownership changed hands over time, the bakery menu escalated to sandwiches, soups, and other savouries, drive-thru started, and business exploded globally, retaining its essential Canadian profile and logo. Tim's now supports underprivileged children, sponsors events and sports teams, features in popular media, and even operates on several North American military bases. Unfortunately, controversies also materialized around pollution, employee wages, and benefits.

And the founder? Miles Gilbert 'Tim' Horton. He was a powerful Canadian NHL defenceman and four-time Stanley Cup Champion whose career started with the Toronto Maple Leafs. He died in a 1974 car accident at age 44 after establishing his earliest donut shops.

I love a Tim Hortons cruller or Raisin Bran muffin with my coffee. Or a toasted 'everything' bagel with cream cheese. Or a few choice Timbits from a handy travel box of varying sizes, equally popular on road trips, in staff rooms, and as contribution to someone's party. The plainest ones taste

best, but who'd say no to any flavour when each suggests that same instant coziness wherever you access them. Consistency feels good, especially when an unfamiliar town features Tim's welcoming lights, not only for coffee breaks or friendly carbs, but free clean washrooms with no purchase necessary.

'Paying it forward' became a catchphrase in my own vocabulary after the COVID lockdowns. Everyone felt scared and isolated. While waiting in a Haliburton Tim's drive-thru lineup, the unknown car ahead of us randomly prepaid our order. So we did exactly the same for the car behind us.

For me, Timmies is a feeling, not a culinary adventure. I can make decent coffee at home. But it's delicious comfort to be handed a hot red-white paper cup by a cheery someone on a dark Canadian morning.

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Chip off the ol' potato

DEAR READER,

Today, we're going to look at one of, if not the most popular snacks in the world – the potato chip! Yes, next to chocolate and its numerous variations, the chip sits top of the list with its crispy munchable tasty bit of yum that gets popped into the mouths of millions of snackers every day. In fact, in North America alone, approximately 1.85 billion pounds of potato chips are consumed annually. This translates to roughly 6.6 pounds per person. Yikes.

JERELYN CRADEN
Foodie in the Hoodie

Once, the furthest thought from a 17th century potato farmer's mind, its evolution to a chip off the ol' potato has created a legacy well-deserving of today's *Foodie in the Hoodie* spotlight. So, here goes.

The earliest known recipe for the potato chip appears in William Kitchiner's 1817 cookbook, *The Cook's Oracle*, published in London, England. It details how to "peel large potatoes, cut them in shavings round and round, as you would peel a lemon, dry them well in a clean cloth, and fry them in lard or drippings."

Then, there's the popular "Saratoga chip" story, often attributed to George Crum, which is thought, more likely than naught, to be legend rather than the true origin. However, I love the story so much that I'm going to repeat it here.

Back in 1853, George Crum, a well-known Adirondak Guide who was known for being able to cook just about anything, was hired as the original chef at the newly opened Moon Lake House, owned by Carey B Moon. He later opened his own restaurant in Malta where several famous people including Presidents Cleveland and Arthur, William Travers and Commodore Cornellius Vanderbilt were reported to be customers. Okay, here's where the legend comes in.

After a customer complained that his French fries were too thick and soggy, Crum made a thinner batch and sent them to his table. Again, the disgruntled customer shared his distain. Back and forth they went on, until an extremely frustrated, bordering on vengeful Chef Crum, sliced some potatoes paper thin, threw them in bubbling lard 'til they were toasty brown, then tossed a whack of salt over them and sent them back to the man's table, expecting him to tantrum his way out the door. Instead, the customer raved about the newly created potato "chips", and, as they say: the rest is history. Based on a myth, perhaps, but a fun one.

Enter – the manufacture of packaged potato chips.

Tri-Sum Potato Chips, established in 1908 as the Leominster Potato Chip Company, is the oldest continuously produced potato chip brand in America. Initially founded by J.P. Duchesneau, the company started with a horse-drawn cart delivering chips within an eight-mile radius of Leominster, Massachusetts. The name "Tri-Sum" was adopted later through a customer contest. Good thing, too. Leominster potato chips didn't exactly have a ring to it.

In 1935, Hostess Food Products was founded in Canada by Edward Snyder, who began making chips on his mother's stove. Hostess was eventually acquired by Frito-Lay in 1988, forming the Hostess Frito-Lay Company, which was later renamed Frito-Lay Canada.

Today, Canada boasts a number of potato chip manufacturers including:

Covered Bridge, Hardbite, Miss Vickie's, Humpty Dumpty, Yum Yum, Hostess, Lays, Doritos and Ruffles.

As for the style of chips, the most common are: Classic – thinly sliced and fried, with a light, crispy texture; Kettle-cooked – cooked in smaller batches, with a thicker, crunchier chip and more irregular shapes; Wavy – cut with a wavy surface that provides extra crispiness and a larger surface area for holding seasonings; and, Baked – **a** lower-fat alternative, where potatoes are baked instead of fried.

Flavours range from simply salted to exotic.

Anthony Bourdain's favourite chips: Kettle Brand Potato Chips, particularly the jalapeno variety. In fact, several top chefs echoed this sentiment, citing the brand's crispy texture and flavourful options.

Ringo Starr favours Lay's Kettle Cooked Wasabi Ginger. Wow! Got to try that one. Seth Rogan loves Canadian Lays Ketchup Chips.

Martin Short crunches down on sea salt and vinegar.

Barbra Streisand goes ga-ga over the Middleswarth barbeque chip.

And, Jennifer Lawrence is a known fan of Cool Ranch Doritos.

As for yours truly -- this foodie in the hoodie's biggest potato chip crush is on: Canadian made, Hardbite Black Truffle Sea Salt. Cooked in 100 oer cent avocado oil with no artificial flavours, the black truffle flavour is, to my palette, not only uniquely delicious – these chips are addictive! So much so, that I keep at least two bags of these chips in my kitchen at all times. Truth be told, I'm munching on one right now. Okay, two. You got me … a bowlful.

Until next time, Dear Reader, remember to savour every moment – that way, everything you eat will taste a whole lot better!

Jerelyn Craden is a writer, singer, artist, and self-proclaimed foodie. Based in Haliburton, she loves sharing information that moves one's happy meter to "high."

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Parents

BELIEVE IT or not, I spend a lot of time thinking about what to write in these editorials.

Some thoughts come to me easily, and nearly every thought arrives at approximately 4:30 a.m.

Some ideas end up in my little mushroom-decorated notebook that sits on my bedside table, others float around my mind until I'm able to finally wrangle them to reality, like fish swirling in an endless pond.

EMILY STONEHOUSE
County Life Editor

When I started writing these columns, many years ago, when the role of editor was nothing more than a pipe-dream peered at through the lens of life, I was brought on as freelance writer, capturing my stories as a 20-something in a small town.

The columns weren't as juicy as they sound. I've forever been fairly tame; a collection of crocheted turtles sit beside two mugs that once housed tea on my antique wooden desk. If that doesn't give you a glimpse into my world, I'm not sure what will.

And now, as a 30-something in a small town, I've been trying to find ideas to write about that extend beyond my parenting experiences. When you peel back the layers of the personality of a parent, what lies beneath the darkened bags under the eyes, the spit-up on the shoulder?

And this idea kept me up at night (begrudgingly so, as my son has just only figured out sleeping during the night hours …)

When I was pregnant, many warned me that life would change. That my personality, my preferences, my pastime would dissolve to dust.

And some did.

And I tried to navigate that. Some pieces were hard to let go of, while others fell with ease; ashes from the fire of a former self caught in the wind.

I absolutely see the value in reconnecting with that past-version of yourself, but as a parent, as I peeled back those layers, I realized that you can never truly reconnect with your past self.

When you become a parent, everything changes. And while I thought I could be in control of what went out the window and what was secured shut, I didn't realize that there was more to it.

It's not just a matter of picking up a pastime you once had. When your child is born, a new version of yourself comes to life as well, while another one dies.

Priorities shift, cares change. The version of myself who valued alone time, who appreciated quiet, who put herself first, she's gone now.

I thought I'd miss her.

But peeling back those layers showed that at my very core, things are different now. I would truly take a chaotic walk in the park with a toddler over a drink at a bar. I would choose storytime and animal crackers over a nice dinner out. Slobbery baby kisses in the morning while he wipes a dreamy sleep from his eyes is the perfect start to any day. Priorities shift, cares change.

Now there is absolutely nothing wrong with craving pieces of the past. We all do it. There is also no fault in choosing a life that doesn't include kids. It's responsible and admirable to know your path.

But this one I have chosen and have been lucky enough to follow; the one that comes with darkened bags under my eyes and spit-up on my shoulder, has proven difficult and beautiful and complicated and messy and wonderful and whimsical and absolutely every feeling on the planet at any given moment.

And one day, that will shift and change again. As is the beautiful complexity of this thing called life. When we finish one chapter, another starts. If we're lucky.

Peeling back those layers has shown me that while I still have other thoughts and ideas to share in these columns, at my very core, I am a parent. A messy, sleep-deprived, overwhelmingly happy parent.

And that's a beautiful thought to view through this lens of life.

Top 10 things the *Secret Life of Trees* never told you

I ONCE read a book called *The Secret Life of Trees*. It was interesting as far as it went. But I suspect the trees hold a few more secrets that the book never touched upon. Here are the top 10.

STEVE GALEA
Humour Columnist

1. Poets may like the sighing of pines, but it is actually a cry for help.
2. The wind in the willows is wind from the willows.
3. Every other nut-bearing tree thinks acorn sounds pretentious.
4. When a tree falls in the forest almost everybody in the neighborhood hears it.
5. The birch take credit for every canoe that goes by.
6. Old evergreens scare their young into behaving by telling them horrific tales of Christmas.
7. They might seem nice, but they all throw shade at each other.
8. Once the leaves are down, the whole forest is a nudist camp.
9. A maple's only dream is sticking a spigot in you.
10. If you hadn't raked those leaves away, they would have put them back on in the spring.

Burning

Blades of grass, sharp as broken bits of glass,
prickling the soles of my bare feet, as I pad across
yellowed patches of park, brittle as straw, earth, thirsting for Rain,
leaves drooping on the branches of their trees, as I
seek reprieve from the heat beneath an old oak,
pressing my spine against its trunk, feeling the
roughness of its bark,
breathing, deep, from the bottom of my lungs, that
crave breeze, thinking about the trees in the forests,
choking on smoke,
wildfires burning them down to the bone, turning
forests into graveyards,
the charred remains of saplings and elders scarring
the forest floor, where they once grew and flourished,
feeling sunlight, drinking Rain, hundreds of thousands of trees devoured by flames, searing Air, scorching the earth,
smouldering embers sparking fresh flames that lick
tendrils of green springing from the ground,
swallowing them as the fire rampages from forest to
forest, nearby Rivers and Lakes containing centuries of
Rain,
unable to douse the flames, as fires burn across the
Earth, humans fleeing the smoke that chokes their
Breath,
the trees have no choice but to remain in the forest,
rooted to the earth that birthed them,
the saplings and elders, huddled together, their
roots, intertwined, generations of trees, erased by
flames,
those that remain, craving Rain, the scorched earth,
cracking, fissures, forming, as smoke smothers Air,
wildfires, burning, stronger and longer every year,
Air, holding its Breath, waiting for Rain,
to drench the flames and the stench they leave
behind, inhaled by lungs that long for summers past,
when forests were sanctuaries of clean, clear Air,
where birds sang and deer breathed,
seeking shelter in the branches of trees and beneath
their canopy,
the limbs of the old oak, shielding me from the
scorch of Sun, as I lean against its trunk,
rubbing the knobs of my spine against the bark, how
lucky this oak tree is, to have reached such an old age,
its descendants springing up around it, I pluck up a
leaf that's fallen to the ground,
laying in the grass, that prickles my fingers, parched
patches, craving Rain, as I twirl the leaf between my
fingers,
wondering whether the oak feels the missing leaf,
the space it leaves behind on its branch,
not nearly as vast as the swaths of scorched earth the
fires leave behind in the cemetery of trees,
how long will it take for fresh growth to spring from
the earth, for forests across the world to replenish the
lost trees,
not even a century of Rain can resurrect the charred
remains of trees that once provided shelter and shade
for birds and animals and humans, that sought refuge and relief among the tall tall trees,
a place where souls could roam and lungs could
breathe, there, among the family of trees,
future generations of forests waiting to take root, as
rivers of Rain douse the flames, and plant the seeds,
soothing the earth's wounds as tendrils curl from
cracks, springing into the world,
not knowing what they will become, fed by Rain and
Sun as they grow into trees, one by one, stretching and
reaching,
branching out 'till they form a forest, cleaning Air
that they share with those who walk among them,
seeking reprieve from a world so littered with
debris, it can barely breathe.

Sylvie Kalenda

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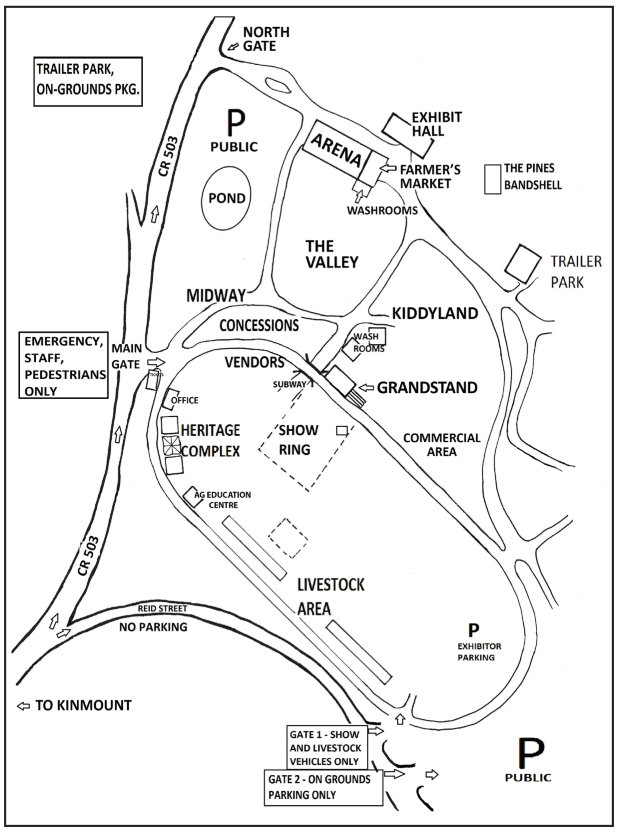

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Failure to launch revisited

STEVE GALEA
Beyond 35

I JUST want to make one thing clear. I have friends. Lots of them. And, contrary to popular belief, only a few of them are imaginary. But I get that you might not believe that since I was witnessed fishing alone on Sunday.

The thing is I do that occasionally. Mostly because I like winning the first and biggest fish bets. Also, when I pull boneheaded stunt, I have the option of keeping it to myself.

Here's a glorious example. On that trip, I backed up my boat to the launch, loaded my gear, and backed my trailer deep enough into the water to float the boat.

I did some things right. For instance, the plug was in it this time.

But I also made a minor mistake. I launched the boat without tying it to the trailer.

So, when it slid off the trailer, it immediately began to float away. Which is when I remembered the rope part.

You see, when you are launching a boat unassisted, it is customary to clip one end of a long rope to your boat and the other end to the trailer. Then when the trailer gets deep enough and the boat floats, you stop your vehicle, get out, unclip the rope from the trailer and use it to pull in and beach the boat. After that, you park your vehicle and trailer.

To give myself some credit, this is precisely what I was thinking as I watched my boat float away.

After that, I took immediate action – by waving goodbye and thinking about what boat I'd buy next. But then I remembered that my favourite fly rod was on board.

This caused me to quickly empty my pockets of cell phone, car key, wallet, lint, candy bar wrappers, and the like, then remove my shoes, socks and shirt.

With that done, I dove in and swam to the boat.

When I got there, I grabbed a rail at the bow and towed it back to a depth where my feet touched bottom – basically three feet from shore.

I was pleased with myself but soaked. Then, after a short breather, I grabbed my stuff from the dock, put it in a container in the boat and began the process of drying myself out in the hot sun. That's when I heard a car coming towards the launch.

I'm not generally shy but I haven't been keeping up with current events, so I wasn't sure if there was or wasn't a law that prohibits men over 60 from being topless in public yet. So I put on my tee shirt, just in case.

By the time the incoming car arrived, I had already parked my vehicle and trailer. Then I got out of my car nonchalantly, just in time for the new vehicle to park nearby.

I confidently exited my vehicle like any normal person would, wearing a perfectly dry shirt and heavily soaked shorts. In hindsight, it looked like a Depends commercial.

That might be the reason they decided to find another place to swim. Or it could simply be because they recognized me, which never seems to work out in my favour.

It wasn't all bad though. I eventually dried out. Better still, I won the first and biggest of the fish bets.

Water lily by Jill Moulton

Life jackets save lives ... no excuses, no exceptions

The Ontario Provincial Police (OPP) is continuing to urge everyone heading out on, or near, the water to make one life-saving choice: wear your life jacket - every time, every ride.

Despite calm conditions and proximity to shore, many boating-related drownings occur when people least expect danger. In fact, 89 per cent of victims in boating-related drownings were not wearing a life jacket. Most of these tragedies happen in small vessels, like canoes and kayaks, and are preventable.

In 2024, drowning remained one of the leading causes of accidental death in Ontario, especially among men aged 20-60. But the risk extends beyond boating. According to the Drowning Prevention Research Centre of Canada, 35 per cent of water-related fatalities in Ontario are linked to swimming, while another 13 per cent are attributed to walking, running, or playing near water, accounting for nearly half of all drownings when combined.

Young children, weak swimmers, and non-swimmers should always wear a life jacket when near water, even in shallow areas. Supervision and proactive lifesaving decisions, like wearing a life jacket, are key to avoiding tragedy.

What You Can Do:

- Always wear a properly fitted, Transport Canada-approved life jacket.
- Set the example, especially for children and new boaters.
- Check weather and water conditions before heading out.

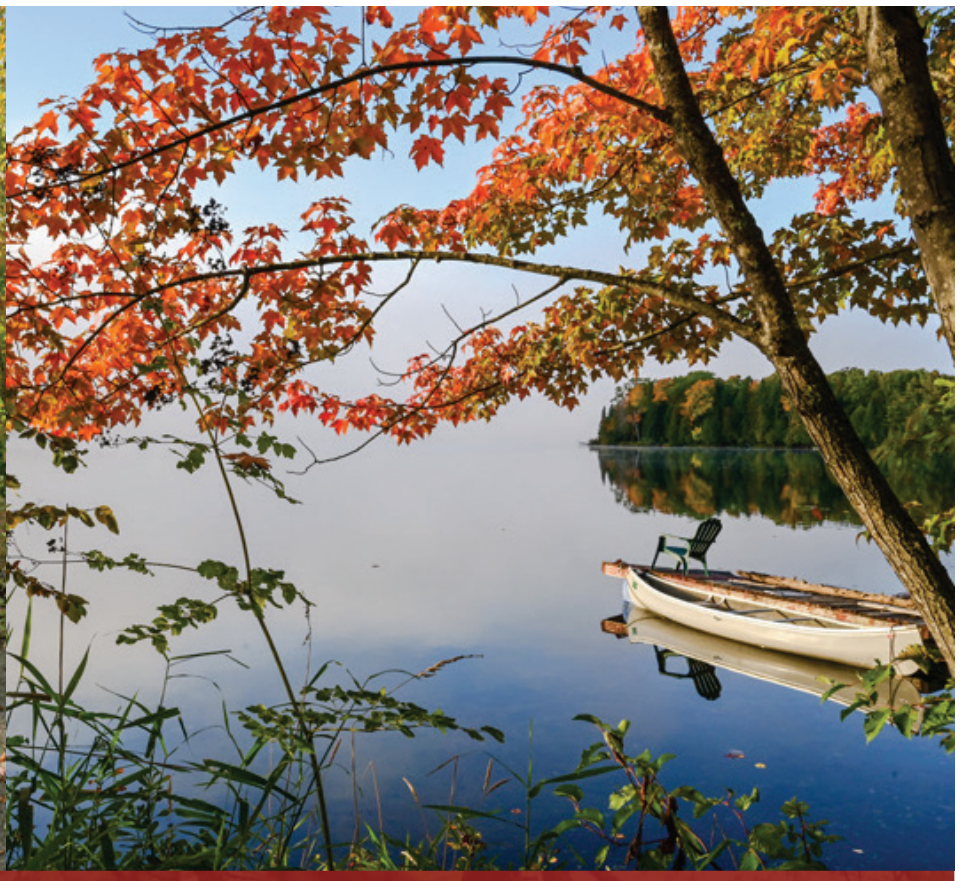
Modern life jackets are lightweight, comfortable, and designed to save lives. Don't just bring it, wear it. Make it a habit. Make it home.

Submitted

Dock

Light flowing along the limb of a willow,
its branches drooping toward the Lake, thirsting for a sip, the water, just out of their reach,
skimming the lopsided dock instead,
strips of wood, missing, as my feet creak across it,
this dock that's been abandoned for years, reeds surrounding it, poking through the spaces where wood used to be,
wavelets of Lake, rocking the dock, as a speedboat zooms past, the wood, rotting in places,
as the soles of my bare feet feel the heat trapped in the wood, slapping their way toward the end of the dock,
where I sometimes sit, just to inhale Sky and watch the light change,
a piece of dock exposed to sunlight, another piece, sheltered in the shade of the willow,
I sit, cross-legged, in a puddle of Sun, feeling the rocking motion of the waves, watching the reeds sway,
a colony of lily-pads splayed alongside them, a single lily blooming, cupping its white petals up toward Sun,
while the roots of the lily-pads, thin as string, remain tethered to the lakebed, nestled in silt,
I peer down into the water, over the edge of the dock, the water, too murky to see the roots,
breeze slinking through the forest of reeds, slicing through the heat, as I dip my feet into the water,
the lopsided dock, holding me, wondering whether it's as old as the willow that droops over it,
missing a few limbs like the dock misses planks of wood, this secret, overgrown spot where I sometimes go,
since I don't own a dock of my own, the reeds and lily-pads welcoming me,
the reeds rustling in the breeze,
as the lily-pads sprawl, silent, gleaming, green, a cobalt blue-winged dragonfly lands on a lily-pad,
followed by another, maybe to rest, my eyes, mesmerized by the brightness of the blue, glistening in the sunlight,
I follow the path of their flight, the pair zig-zagging back up into Air, trailing one another,
smears of blue shimmer, painting Air,
for the brief time that they're here,
unaware of their beauty or Time that passes with each flutter of a wing,
I peer back down at the single water lily, blooming among the lily-pads, its petals opening beneath the Sun,
before they wilt and close, wondering why the owners of this dock chose to abandon it,
nestled here, beneath the old willow, surrounded by reeds, weeds springing from the shore,
hours pass, and still I sit here, on this lopsided dock, feeling the heat from the strips of wood,
cupping my face up toward Sun, like the lone water lily, wondering how long it will bloom,
how much longer the pair of blue-winged dragonflies will chase one another, up there in Air,
another speedboat whizzing past, waves rocking the dock, that's been abandoned for years,
closing my eyes to feel the motion of the waves, bending my spine like the reeds, rustling in the breeze,
warmth flowing through me as I press my palms into the dock, feeling its heat and the rough patches of wood,
wondering how many summers little feet skittered back and forth across this dock,
growing up and growing older, like the willow that stoops over the Lake,
its branches, drooping to take a sip, as the waves reach the shore, light flowing along its remaining limb,
that once sheltered the ones that don't come here anymore.

Sylvie Kalenda



NATURE'S CANVAS

EXPERIENCE COLOURS

September – October

MY Haliburton HIGHLANDS

myhaliburtonhighlands.com

FALL COLOUR UPDATES

Not intended to solicit properties or clients currently listed

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KUSHOG LAKE $809,000

Spotless 4-season cottage, insulated guest cabin. 3-season sunroom w/cathedral beamed ceilings. Modern pine ceiling kitchen w/ skylight, living room w/wood stove & lg master bdrm. 124 ft of frontage. Deep water off dock's end,& walk-in entry. Lakeside deck & dock system, & firepit area and 4-person wood-fired barrel sauna! Solid concrete block foundation w/ crawl space, lake water w/ heated line, UV system, lg rear deck, low maintenance yard and building. new windows, exterior door, washer/dryer (2023+/-). New mudroom.

Deb Lambe
Sales Representative
705-854-0103
debra.lambe@gmail.com

STARTER HOME $225,000

- One Bedroom, 1 1/2 Bathrooms
- Two Living Spaces and Kitchen
- Main Floor Laundry
- Main Floor Storage

Lynda Litwin
Sales Representative
705-457-8511
lynda@lyndalitwin.ca

ST. NORA LAKE $1,287,000

Beautifully maintained 4 bed, 4 bath year-round home/cottage sits on 150 ft waterfront on St. Nora Lake. Open concept layout. Separate Bunkie. Detached garage with loft. St. Nora Lake is part of a desirable two-lake chain w/ Kushog Lake, great for boating & fishing. Outdoor enthusiasts will love the proximity to snowmobile, ATV, hiking & cross-country skiing trails, making this a four-season paradise.

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705-455-7500
kelly@kelly-mercer.ca

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Lisa Mercer
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705-457-0364
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DRAG LAKE $829,000

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John & Marj Parish
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Marj Parish 705-455-2211
Sales Representatives

3539 COUNTY RD 21, SOYERS LAKE

- 3 BR, 1 BT, 1594 sq ft, .73 acre lot
- 150+ ft frontage, Attaches to 5-lake Chain
- 800+ ft composite decking
- 4-car garage + 2-car garage

Cheryl Smith
Sales Representative
705-455-2500
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cherylsmithremax.com

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- Fully furnished

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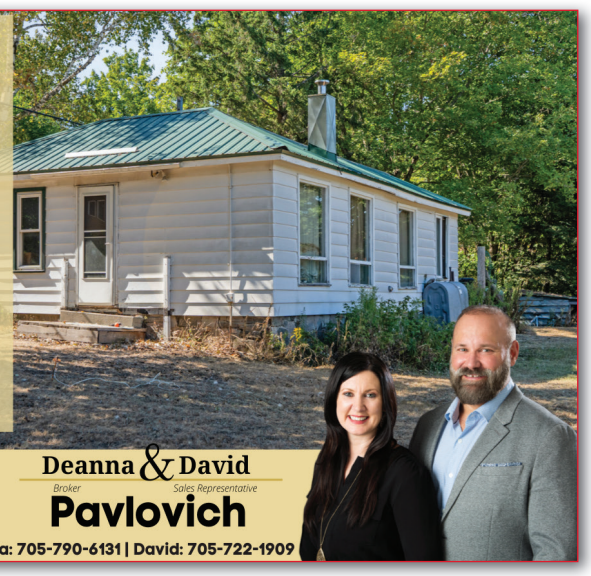

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Broker Sales Representative

Deanna: 705-790-6131 | David: 705-722-1909

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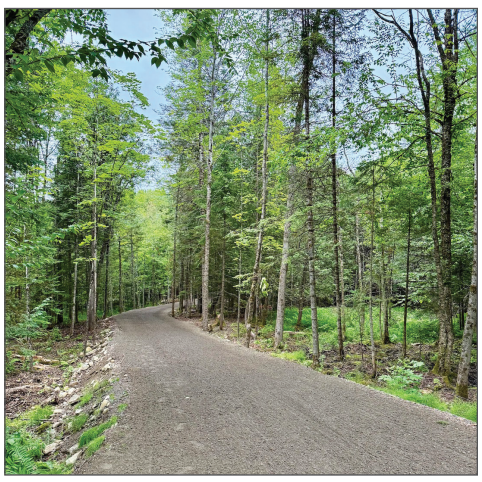
listings@remaxprofessionals.ca

2166 BLAIRHAMPTON ROAD $559,000

1100 SQ. ft. 3 bedroom bungalow sits on private 5.5 acre lot in peaceville Blairhampton - cozy country kitchen and dining area - 4pc bath - new septic 2018 - full w/o basement unfinished - FA propane - 26' x 40' 2 storey garage - fully insulated - 2nd floor wide open and carpeted - FA propane heating

Ted Vasey
Sales Representative
705-455-2034
ted@tedvasey.ca

TOM BOLTON ROAD - VACANT LOT $164,900

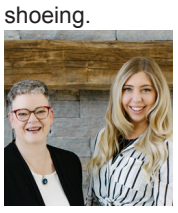


- Ideal Location To Build Your Dream Home or Getaway!
- Private, well-treed, 4.88-acre parcel.
- Cedar buffer which opens up to a mature mixed hardwood bush.
- Driveway installed, situated on year-round municipal road.
- Centrally located between Haliburton and Minden and just 5 minutes from the Public Boat Launch on Lake Kashagawigamog.

Ken Barry
Broker 705-754-5280
Jacquie Barry
Realtor® 705-457-0652
www. kenbarry.com
Out Standing In Our Field

UPDATED HOME ON 30 ACRES $679,000

This well-maintained 3-bed, 2-bath home sits on 30 private acres. Enjoy a ground-level walkout entrance to the rec room w/ high ceilings, two upper decks, plus many recent upgrades throughout the home. The property boasts ample parking, a 12'x16' shed, & trails leading to a campsite/bonfire pit by the marsh, perfect for year-round outdoor activities like skiing & snow-shoeing.



Terry Carr & Drew Staniforth
Sales Representatives
705-935-1011
MovingTheHighlands.com

$599,000

1023 Chester Cres.
HARCOURT

- 3 bedrooms/2 baths
- Detached + Attached Garages
- 2,259 sqft finished living space
- Huge covered veranda
- Level lot - 1.93 acres
- Lots of upgrades

scan to view the listing!

FOR SALE!

VINCE **DUCHENE**

EAST LAKE $479,000

- Peace & tranquility on quiet lake!
- Charming 2 bed/1 bath cottage
- Open concept, cozy inviting layout
- 2 w/os to large wrap-around deck
- Gently terraced lot; nicely treed
- Rocky, sandy shore; NW exposure
- Wonderful fishing & paddling
- Septic; heated lk line/UV; 2 sheds
- No motors at all; private yr-rnd rd

Rick Forget
Broker
705-457-0580
haliburtonhighlands-remax.ca

7 STOUFFER ST

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Includes 2024 SS kitchen appliances
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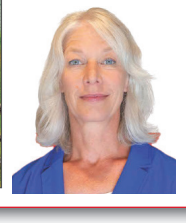

Jackie Hardman
Sales Representative
705-879-8041
jackiedhardman@gmail.com

Naturally Yours

Three Brothers Falls

RICK WHITTEKER
Naturally Yours

PADDLING UPSTREAM has its challenges but in the case of the paddle to Three Brothers Falls on the Burnt River, the extra effort is worth the reward.

Starting behind the popular Kinmount Fish and Chips on County Road 121 in Kinmount, there is a flat area to launch from with plenty of parking. The current is gentle in this section of the Burnt River, so as we meander north to the falls, the current is hardly noticeable.

Historically, the Burnt River was an important log moving conduit. Flowing from Miskwabi Lake east of Haliburton and draining into Cameron Lake in the Kawartha Lakes region, the Burnt River was one of many rivers essential to early logging operations in central Ontario. Relying on the spring freshet, the Burnt River was preferred over the less tortuous Gull River because there are no large lakes to slow the log transportation process down.

Although the Burnt River is faster moving, this speed came with challenges. Log jams were common on rapids and waterfalls found along the river. Only the bravest of souls called "jam crackers" would venture out onto this stalled mass of logs to work loose the key log holding up the works. Once released, a quick squirrel-like scamper to shore was necessary, sometimes ending badly if the log release happened too quickly. Three wooden crosses at Three Brothers Falls have long since disintegrated; life was dangerous on these log drives.

There is little evidence of this era on our paddle up. The bare hills shown on historical photos have been replaced with early succession forests. Ox bow lakes have formed where a wide meander of a river has been cut off leaving U-shaped bodies of water. Keep an eye out for the direction of the current to keep you from heading down the river equivalent of a cul-de-sac.

Rivers are great places to see wildlife and the Burnt River did not disappoint. We saw several turtles on our early summer paddle. Basking to warm up from the cool river temperatures, these ectothermic reptiles rely on warm days to maintain a healthy metabolism. Painted turtles were the most common turtle observed but we also saw a Blandings turtle and one large snapper.

We paddled right by the snapper as it blended in with a twisted piles of logs and river debris. A quick back paddle allowed us a long look at this sprawled out specimen. Guessing the shell to be about 18 inches wide, this

Falls number three./ photos by Rick Whitteker

RAILS END GALLERY & ARTS CENTRE

A friendly painting competition

Entries must be created in Haliburton County in 2024/25

Deadline: Sept. 3, 2025

Exhibition: Sept. 19 - Nov. 8, 2025

Reception: Sept. 19, 2025

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Friday, Sat 10 -5, Sun 10-4, Monday closed
FALL HOURS: Tues to Sat 10 - 5

Naturally Yours

Two upper drops at Burnt River

big lug was lounging with its thick, heavily clawed legs and massive head dangling down over the sides of its perch. Like a solar panel capturing the sun's energy, this snapper was looking to maximize its sun exposure to recharge its batteries for life in the cool river.

After some big looping meanders, the sound of the falls catches our attention. The base of the falls is tumultuous but shallow. Be prepared to step out and walk your canoe up river when water levels are low.

Full appreciation of this series of three waterfalls can only be gained by clamoring up a steep, driftwood strewn ledge on the right side of the river heading upriver. There is a wide trek running the length of the falls. Respect for private property is necessary here- please leave no evidence of your visit when you leave.

A steep knoll on one side of the river and a small rocky point on the other funnels the power of the river through a narrowed space. It is on this small rocky point that visitors can enjoy a beautiful vantage point beside the third falls looking upriver at the other two drops. For me, the beauty of these falls rests in the calm pools of water between each drop. The contrasting effect of the tumbling force and the placid calm is mesmerizing.

After some exploring, a snack and drink, we made our way back, enjoying a small boost from the current heading south. With no expectations beyond a calm paddle downstream, a movement caught our eye. A mink ran along the waters edge, likely seeking out a shoreline meal. Clams, crayfish, fish or frogs, these adept carnivores are deceptively cute with long, sleek bodies, little pointy faces with small ears and short legs. With its luxurious brown coat and bounding gate, the mink is one of the most observed members of the weasel family.

Paddling upstream and back, this route is about 12 kilometres and will take you four to five hours with breaks. The river is quaint and quiet, shared with some homes, cottages and the occasional small fishing boat. The feeling of remoteness increases with every stroke north of Kinmount. Although the trip back from the falls is faster, we felt no rush to end this enjoyable day trip in the southwest corner of Haliburton County.

Painted turtle on a log.

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Friday August 29
3-5 - Birthday Happy Hour $5/pint Dominion 1865 Lager or Red Truck Red Ale
7:30 - Open Mic with **Bo Blake Band**

Saturday August 30
12-5 - Pint and Pound $20 Dominion 1865 Lager or Red Truck Red Ale with pound of wings
1-3 - Our Jr. Hot Dog $3. (proceeds to Minden Food Bank)
3-5 - Birthday Happy Hour $5/pint Dominion 1865 Lager or Red Truck Red Ale
7:30 - **Russell DeCarle Band** in concert. Tickets online at DominionHotelPub.ca

Sunday Aug 31
12-5 - Pint and Pound $20 Dominion 1865 Lager or Red Truck Red Ale with pound of wings
3-5 - Birthday Happy Hour $5/pint Dominion 1865 Lager or Red Truck Red Ale
4pm - Caesar Sunday Happy Hour with **Brian Sachs and Jim McGowan**

All prices plus tax.

Dominion Hotel This Week

Tue Aug 26	5:00 PM	Tiki Tuesday	Mixed Bag
Fri Aug 29	7:30 PM	Open Mic	Bo Blake Band
		LABOUR DAY WEEKEND	160 BD Celebration
Sat Aug 30	7:30 PM	Russel DeCarle Trio	Tickets available on website.
Tue Sep 2	5:00 PM	Gord Kidd Solo	Gord Kidd
Sat Sep 6	6:00 PM	Saturday Live	Gary and the Rough Ideas
Sun Sep 7	4:00 PM	Caesar Sunday Happy Hour	Chris Smith

Info @ https://DominionHotelPub.ca

Join our e-mail newsletter for advance notice of live music and food specials!

113 Main St., Minden (705) 286-6954

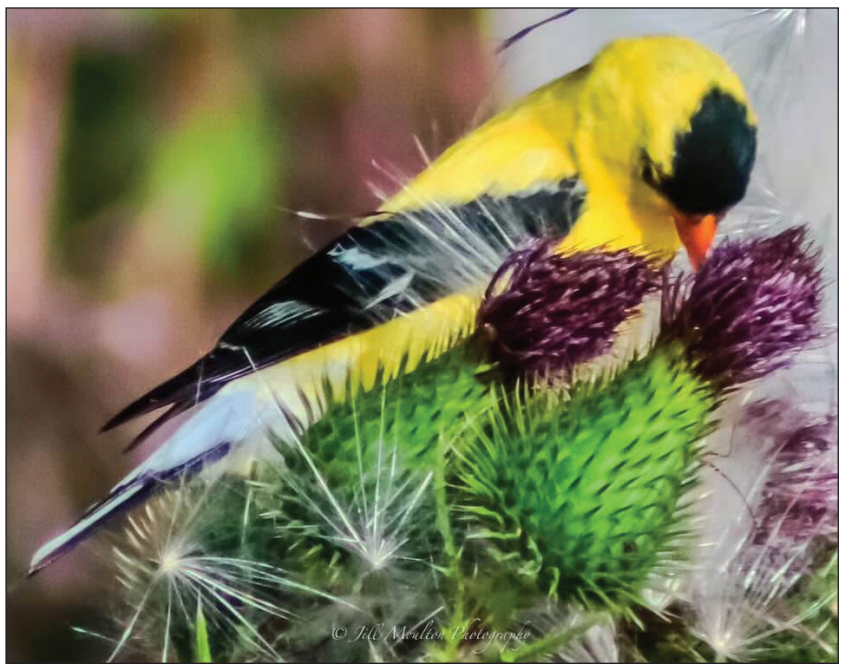
Nature in your backyard

County Life welcomes photo submissions depicting life in the Highlands. Email emily@ haliburtonpress.com. Please ensure images are high resolution - 200 dpi, 10 inches at its longest edge.

Bear by Tammy Nash

Fawn by Randy Moratz

Loon by Randy Moratz



American Goldfinch by Jill Moulton

Legion Events

Branch 441 Kinmount

Monday: Bid euchre 1 p.m., Cornhole 7 p.m. (upstairs)
Tuesday: Last Tuesday of the month-liver luncheon with one alternative 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Wednesday: Mixed darts 7:30 p.m. Canteen opens at 6 p.m.
Thursday: General meeting (3rd week) Members only 7:30 p.m.
Friday: Chair yoga 10 a.m. Bingo, doors open at 5 p.m. play at 6:45 p.m.
Saturday: Meat draw 5 p.m. Canteen opens at 3 p.m.
Sunday: Ladies Auxiliary meeting (members only) 3rd week at 2 p.m.
Special events: May 11 Mother's day breakfast $13.00/ person
Friday night BBQ
Hall rentals available at reasonable prices. Call 705-488-3462 or 705-928-7105. We welcome everyone to our events and we look forward to seeing you!

Branch 129 Haliburton

Mondays: Bridge 1 p.m. Schofield Rm. Youth darts 6:30 to 8 p.m. Clubroom 10 to 18 years of age. All are welcome, no experience necessary
Tuesdays: League darts 7 p.m.
Wednesdays: Bid Euchre 1 p.m. start – Main Hall. Bingo doors open at 6 p.m. Bingo 7 p.m. FirstWed of each month with jackpot. Follow Facebook.com/Branch129 Bingo for the most up-to-date information
Thursdays: General Meeting third Thursday of the month, 6:30 p.m. All members urged to attend.
Ladies Auxiliary last Thursday of the month at 1 p.m.
Fridays: Five meat draw, five prizes each draw, first draw 4:30 p.m., last draw 6:30 p.m. Tickets $2 per draw. Paul Sisson, MC. Friday fun darts from 4:30 p.m. and onwards. 50/50 Draw 5:40 p.m.
Whether you're planning a function for 10 or 200, call Cheryl Waller at 905-447-7741, email haliburtonlegionrentals@gmail.com or visit haliburtonlegion.com. Everyone is welcome! Club room hours: Mon. 3 to 6 p.m., Tues. 3 to 9 p.m., Wed/Thurs. 3 to 6 p.m. Fri. 3 to 7 p.m.

Branch 636 Minden

Lunch - Monday to Friday
Monday: Rug Hookers every second week. Bid Euchre 1 to 3 p.m.
Tuesday: Food 5 p.m. Canoe FM Bingo 6 p.m.
Thursday: Cribbage 1 to 3 p.m., Darts 7 to 9 p.m. and Euchre 7 to 9 p.m.
Every other Friday: Karaoke 8 to 11 p.m.
Friday Fish & Chips, Wings. Lunch 11a.m. to 2 p.m. and Dinner 4 to 7 p.m.
Saturday All Day Breakfast 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. with three Meat draws at 11 a.m.
Call ahead any day for take-out: 705-286-4541.
Schedules are subject to change without notice. Check our Facebook page Minden Legion Branch 636 for more info.

Branch 624 Wilberforce

Hours - Sunday: Special Events Only, Monday: 7 to 10 p.m., Tuesday: Special Events Only, Wednesday: 2 to 10 p.m., Thursday: 2 to 10 p.m., Friday: 2 to 11 p.m., Saturday: 2 to 9 p.m.
Mondays: Sept. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 Darts $5/player 7 p.m.
Tuesday: Sept. 23 Veterans Appreciation Dinner. Tickets are $20 each. Veterans and their Spouse are free. Cocktails Start at 4:30 p.m. Dinner to follow.
Wednesdays: Sept. 3, 10, 17, 24 Darts $4/player 2 p.m., Quick Supper Menu changes weekly $10 5 to 6:30 p.m., Cribbage League 6:30 p.m. – Sign up at the Legion
Thursdays: Sept. 4, 11, 18, 25
Horseshoes $5/player 7 p.m.
Sept. 11, 25 HHHS Social Rec 10 a.m.
Fridays: Sept.5, 19 Fish and Chips 1pc/$15, 2pc/$20
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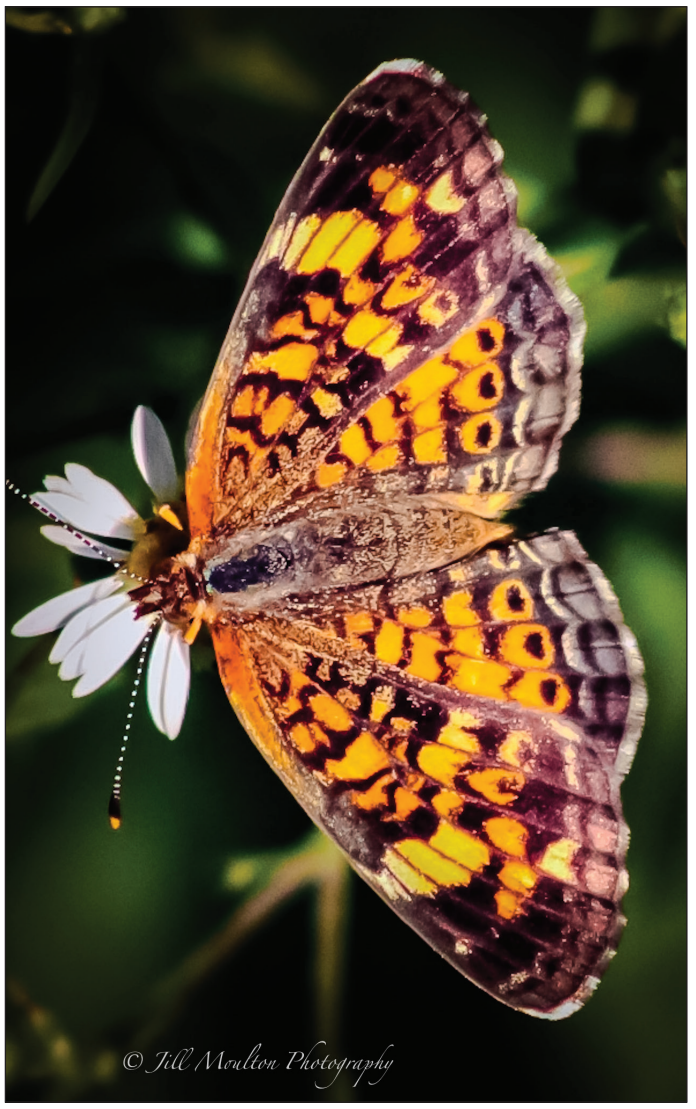

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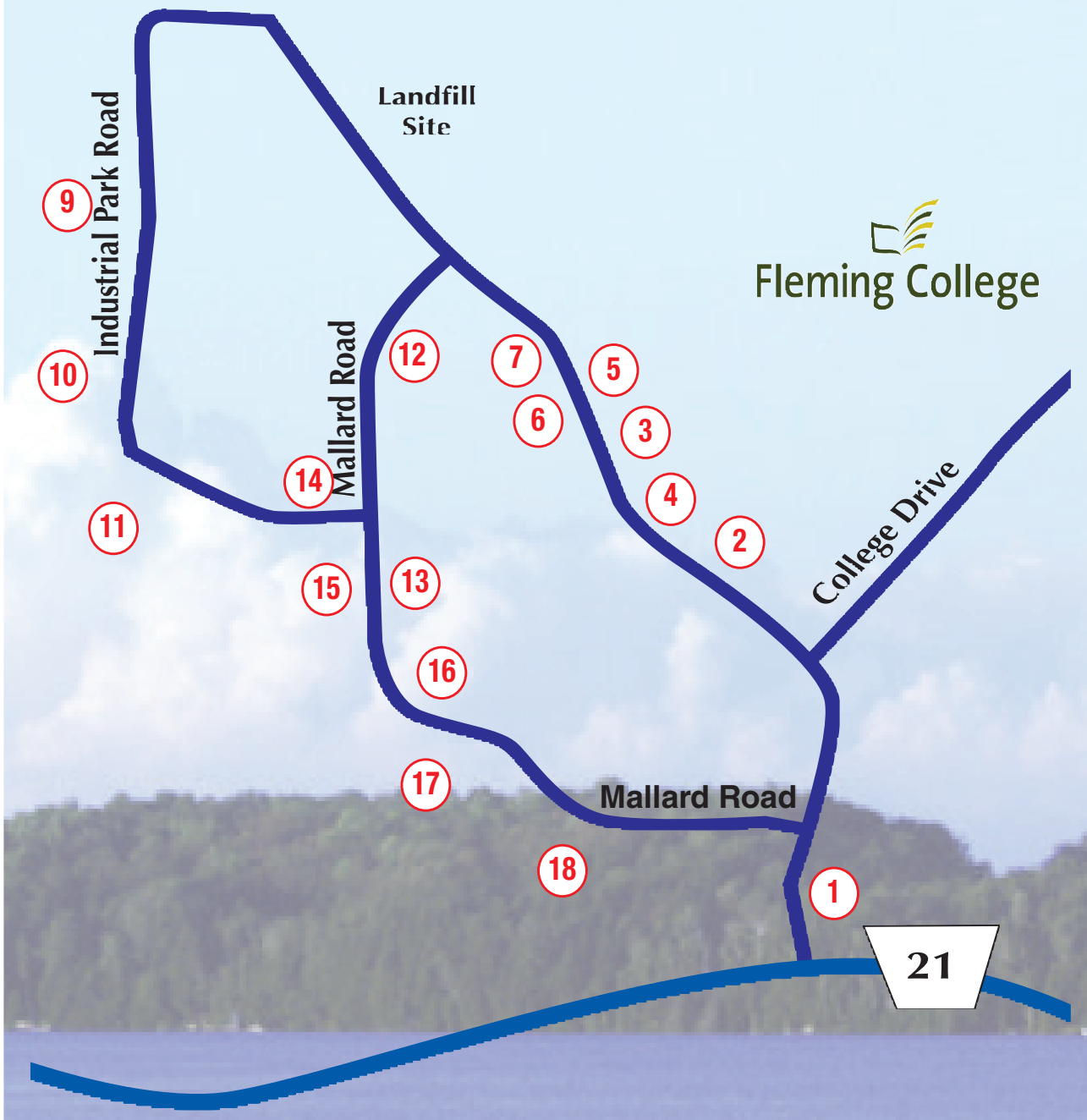

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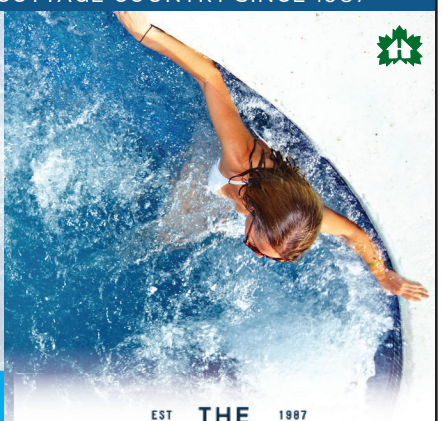

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When: Sept. 2, 7 p.m.
Where: Minden Community Centre, 55 Parkside St. Minden
Unleash your gardening creativity! Please join the Minden & District Horticultural Society at the Minden Community Centre. Guest speaker Vikki Whitney will speak about "Trend Watch 2025 – Creating a Fall Planter" followed by the monthly society meeting. New members welcome!

Point in Time Presents: An Evening with Kael Reid
When: Sept. 13, 7 to 9 p.m.
Where: The Music Room at Castle, 223 Highland St. Haliburton, ON
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Haliburton Veterans Decoration Day
Where: St. Anthony and Evergreen Cemetery, Pine Street, Haliburton
When: Monday, September 15, 2025 at 10 a.m.
Opening ceremonies at the St. Anthony Cemetery with music provided by Gord Kidd. White crosses will be placed on veterans gravesides at St. Anthony and then Evergreen Cemetery (Approx. 180 crosses) by Legion & Ladies Auxiliary members, Haliburton Lions members and the senior students from Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (Independent Studies Class). Closing ceremonies at Evergreen Cemetery with music provided by Gord Kidd. Light refreshments will follow the placing of the crosses. The cross will remain in place until the following Sunday.

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When: 1st, 3rd Tuesday of the month - 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Where: Minden Hills Branch, 176 Bobcaygeon Rd. Minden
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Bridge for Seniors
When: Mondays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Schofield Room
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Haliburton Legion Walking Group
When: Mondays at 9 to 10 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
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When: Every second and fourth Tuesday of each month at 10 to 11 a.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
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Haliburton Sculpture Forest Guided Walking Tours
When: Tuesdays in August, 10 a.m.
Where: 297 College Dr. Haliburton
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Bid Euchre
When: Wednesdays at 1 p.m.
Where: Haliburton Legion - Remembrance Hall
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Seniors Chair Exercises
When: Thursdays at 1 p.m.
Where: St. George's Anglican Church, 617 Mountain Street
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When: Thursdays at 2:30 p.m.
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Board wrestles with representation

New distribution could see Minden gain one trustee at Dysart's expense

The Haliburton County Board of Education will be meeting again tomorrow night to wrestle with the issue of trustee representation after discussions last Thursday ended in stalemate.

The board has been directed by the Ministry of Education to work out a new system of trustee representation that will be based on population rather than assessment. And although the ministry has provided guidelines for the board to follow, the requirements leave a surprising amount of room for the board to manoeuvre.

The basic number of trustees serving on the board will remain the unchanged following the civic election this November. However, the number of trustees representing each of the 10 municipalities could very well change.

At last Thursday's meeting, there was a general agreement that all municipalities should be represented by at least one trustee, with the exception of Cardiff and Bicroft, which have shared a trustee in the past. However, there was a good deal of disagreement when it appeared that Dysart Township would be losing one of its five trustees and Anson, Hindon and Minden would be gaining one.

Education Director Stuart Baker explained that the present system is based on representation by assessment. This system leaves Dysart Township with five trustees, Minden with two, and Stanhope, Lutterworth, Snowdon, Monmouth, Glamorgan and Sherborne each with one. Bicroft and Cardiff share one trustee, and a fifteenth trustee, representing that area's separate school also sits on the board.

Although ministry guidelines indicate that 12 trustees would be suitable for the county, the board is given the leeway to add or subtract up to two trustees from that number. At Thursday's meeting the board passed a resolution requesting that the number of trustees remain at 14.

Put simply, representation by population in Haliburton County means each municipality should elect one trustee for every 853 of its permanent residents. Of course, in practice, it does not work out quite so neatly.

Using this formula, the number of trustees which should represent the municipalities is as follows: Dysart, 4.65; Minden, 3.18; Stanhope, 1.12; Lutterworth, .93; Snowdon, .86; Monmouth, .82; Cardiff, .66; Bicroft, .64; Glamorgan, .63; and Sherborne, .51.

Assuming that Bicroft and Monmouth continue to share one trustee and the other six smaller municipalities each get one trustee, that would leave only seven to be split among Minden and Dysart. And here is where the disagreement began and ended at Thursday's meeting.

According to the guidelines from the ministry, trustees can choose to round off fractions in either direction to the next whole number. This means that Dysart could be rounded off down to four trustees while Minden could not have fewer than three. That would leave Dysart with one less trustee, while Minden would gain one.

Dysart trustee Len Salvatori immediately objected to this. And when a show of hands was called for later, there were six other trustees who sided with him.

However, when a second informal vote was taken moments later, seven trustees indicated they would be satisfied with this shift in representation. In either case, a formal motion would have been defeated, since support from three quarters of all trustees would be needed for this to be carried.

Salvatori and the six trustees who backed his feelings are in favour of maintaining the status quo. And according to Stuart Baker, it may be

(more on page 7)

MNR has surprise visit from ministers

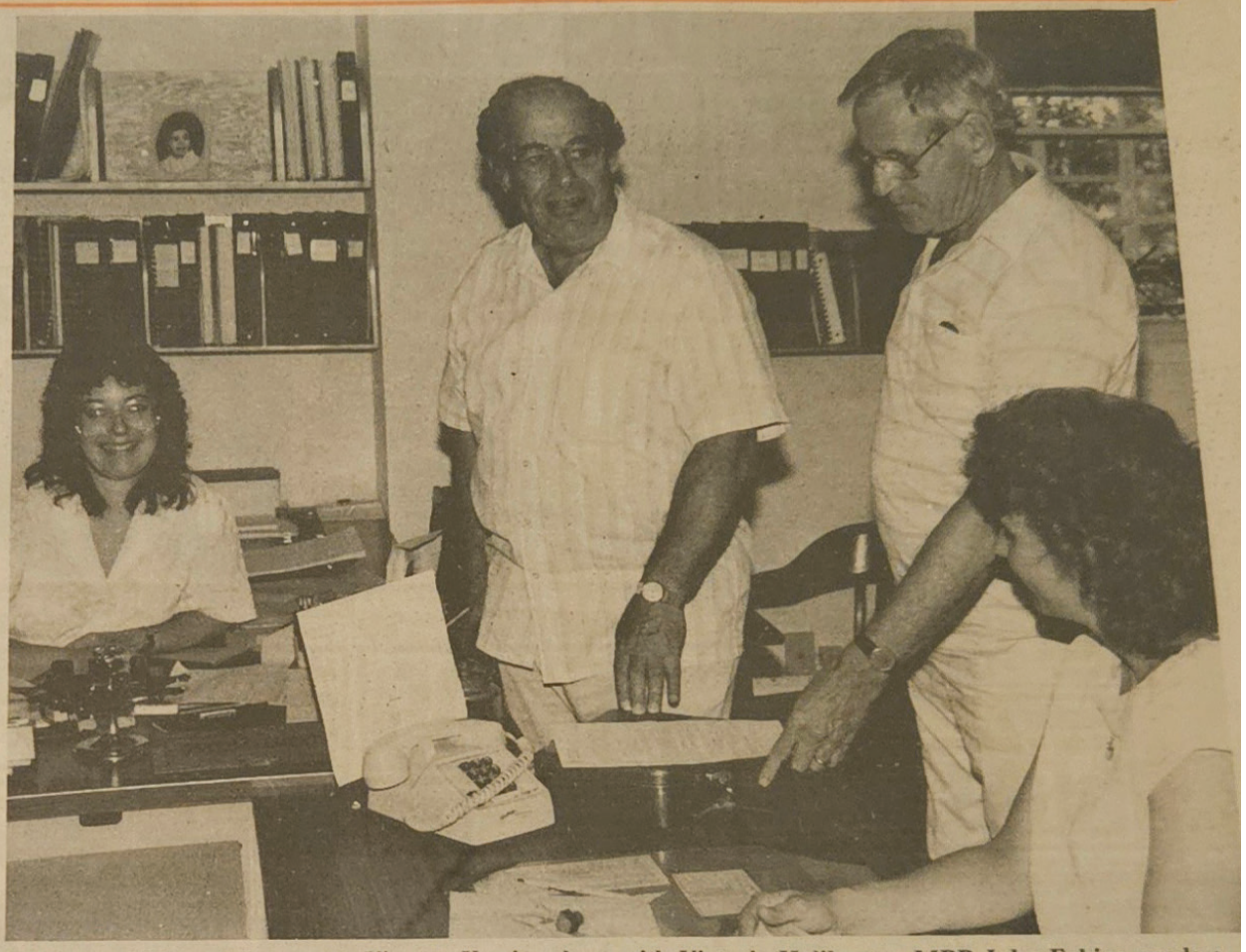
Victoria - Haliburton MPP John Eakins is proud of his riding and whenever possible, he likes to show it off to his colleagues at Queen's Park.

Last Tuesday it was Minister of Natural Resources Vince Kerrio who was being treated to a brief stay in the Highlands, and during his visit, he and Eakins took the opportunity to stop in at the local Natural Resources office.

Kerrio, who hails from the Niagara Falls area, says he has long-time ties with northern Ontario and especially with this area. He was visiting with Eakins at his home on Four Mile Lake and they decided to drop in at the Ministry offices in Minden and Lindsay.

"I'm interested in all the branches," said Kerrio. "An office like this is a miniature of the whole ministry." He likes to meet the personnel that work for the ministry and try to get a feel for the local concerns.

After touring the Minden office, Kerrio said he is proud of the depth of talent here. This office is very much self sufficient because its staff have such a wide variety of expertise, he said.



Minister of Natural Resources Vincent Kerrio, along with Victoria-Haliburton MPP John Eakins, made a surprise visit to the local ministry office last Tuesday morning.

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Hot Tubs & Spas

The Pump Shop is your desitination for hot tubs and spas specifically suited for your cottage or home in Haliburton. The Pump Shop also provides a wide selection of Hot Tub accessories, parts and servicing for many Hot Tub makes and models.

Looking for a hassle free maintenance routine? Let our team of service technicians take care of your hot tub – leaving you to simply sit back, relax and enjoy! Our maintenance package includes a bi-weekly routine of water balancing, filter cleaning and maintaining the general operation of your hot tub in optimal condition.

We also offer general maintenance, repairs, parts and accessories on many hot tub makes and models.

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PUMP SHOP
WATER SPECIALISTS

5161 County Road 21, Haliburton
P. 705.457.2638
www.thepumpshop.ca